Submitted on Thu, 02/10/2022 - 12:03

#### Name

lizzy lyons

# Affiliation, if applicable

vermont resident

## Town/City

Colchester

### **Topic**

Other

#### Comment

Yes, cover hearing aids in the VT Benchmark plans. I have worn hearing aids since I was a child and I cannot afford to replace them every couple of years out of pocket. They are thousands of dollars apiece and I need one for both ears. But without them I cannot work - doing work as DCF family services worker or as a DV/SV advocate - if I cannot hear the people I work with. I cannot take care of my children if I cannot hear them cry. I need my hearing aids to do basic life activities. But the cost, even though I work two jobs, is difficult to pay out of pocket. I have to take out loans or ask for VocRehab to help support portions of the cost. Hearing aids are not covered by insurance. P lease, consider covering this necessary medical device to the Benchmark plan. Thank you.

Your public comment will be shared with the Board. To promote transparency, the Board sometimes posts public comments on its website. Are you okay with the Board posting your comment? If no, your comment will be sent to the Board but not posted.

Yes